Illegal Immigrants from Bangladesh in North-East

2208. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the North-East stands swarmed by illegal immigrants from Bangladesh posing a great threat to the security of the region; and

(b) if so, the measures taken to check the influx, as immigrants may overpower North-East populace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) There is a continuous influx of illegal immigrants from Bangladesh which is a threat to the NE region.

(b) State Governments have been directed to enforce strictly the provisions of the Foreigners Act, 1946 and Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) Act, 1983 in case of Assam. Standing instructions have been issued to them to detect and deport foreigners staying unauthorisedly. In addition a series of measures have been taken by the Government to curb the problem of infiltration of Bangladeshi nationals into India. These measures include raising of additional battalions of Border Security Force, reduction of gaps between the border outposts, intensification of patrolling both on the land and the riverine border, accelerated programme of construction of border roads and fencing, increase in the number of outpost towers, provision of surveillance equipments etc. The matter has also been taken up with the Government of Bangladesh on various occasions. The progress of these measures is reviewed regularly at various levels.

Production and Export of Coal

†2209. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:

Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that production of coal in India is more than its requirement;

(b) if not, the position of average demand and supply of coal during the past five years, year-wise;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.